WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Firms using ISI Marks without Licences

465. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints that some firms are using the ISI marks on their products without acquiring licence from the Bureau of Indian Standards; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government against such firms?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has received complaints relating to the use of ISI mark by some firms on their products without obtaining licences from the (BIS). The complaints received relate to products like mattresses, GLS lamps, cast iron pipes and fittings, mild steel tubes, electrical cables and appliances etc. All such cases are thoroughly investigated and appropriate action is taken under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

In the calender years 1993 and 1994, 60 and 84 cases respectively were identified relating to misuse of ISI mark. Of these, 80 per cent cases originated through complaints. In a few cases, investigations have already been completed and prosecution launched in the Court of law.

Proposal for Second National Labour Commission

*466. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up a second National Labour Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The proposal for setting up of a Second National Commission on Labour is under active consideration of the Government. The composition and detailed terms of reference of the proposed Commission would be finalised as soon as the decision to constitute the Commission has been taken by the competent authority.

Amount spent as Legal Fees by ITPO

*467 SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the ITPO spends a substantial amount of budgeted funds on legal fees.

(b) what are the legal expenses incurred by ITPO in 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively;

(c) what are the litigations presently underway involving ITPO; and

(d) the details of such litigations as on State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir. The legal expenses incurred by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) as compared to its total budget are nominal.

(b) The legal expenses incurred by ITPO during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95 are Rs. 4.51 lakhs and Rs. 3.20 lakhs respectively.

(c) and (d) At present, there are 129 litigations underway involving ITPO, break up of which is given as under :—

(a) Labour and service matters	— 58
(b) Commercial cases	— 30
(c) Estate and Property Tax	— 41